NAVY CON
NAVIES IN SCIENCE FICTION
NOVEMBER 18TH, 2017
U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY
NAVYCON: NAVIES IN SCIENCE FICTION
18 November 2017, 1200-1700 EST
U.S. Naval Academy Museum

SESSION I

Opening Address (1200-1220)
Claude Berube, Director USNA Museum
“The ‘Academy,’ Naval Heritage, and Star Trek”

Special Guest Speaker (1220-1240 plus 10 min Q&A)
CAPT Kay Hire (Ret), (USNA ’81), NASA astronaut STS-90 and STS-130
“The NASA of Today and Tomorrow”

Panel 1 (1250-1330)
LT Matt Hipple, USN
“Why the Proposed Space Cadre Ought to be Part of the Navy”

Tim Choi (PhD Candidate)
“Maritime Security, Sea Lanes, Chokepoints and ‘Star Trek Deep Space Nine’”

Panel 2 (1330-1430)
Raymond Pritchett, “Galrahn” of Informationdissemination.net
“Naval Irregular Warfare and SciFi Videogames”

Jonathan Bratten
“Non-State Actors: The Case of ‘Firefly’”

CDR BJ Armstrong
“Bringing Balance to the Fleet Forces: Issues of Fleet Design in ‘Star Wars’ and ‘The Expanse.’”

Break (1430-1445)
SESSION II

Panel 3 (1445-1530)
Jennifer Marland, National Museum of the U.S. Navy
“Why Old Tech is sometimes the Right Answer: ‘Battlestar Galactica’”

David Larter, reporter Navy Times
“Fleet Leadership in ‘Star Wars’”

Panel 4 (1530-1615)
CAPT Mark Vandroff (USNA ’89), former Program Manager of DDG-51 program
“Acquisition Reform Implementation by the Galactic Empire in the Years Prior to the Battle of Yavin”

Dr. Jerry Hendrix, Center for a New American Security (former Director of Naval History & Heritage Command)
“Fleet Operations and Tactics in David Weber’s Honor Harrington Series”

Keynote Address (1615-1645)
Congressman Mike Gallagher (R-WI), HASC Seapower Subcommittee, USMC/Iraq Vet
“Service, Citizenship & ‘Starship Troopers’”

Concluding Address (1645-1715)
David Weber, science fiction author of the best-selling Honor Harrington series
Captain Kathryn “Kay” Hire, USN (Ret) received her Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering and Management from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1981 and her Master of Science degree in Space Technology from Florida Institute of Technology in 1991. After earning her Naval Flight Officer wings, Hire conducted worldwide airborne oceanographic research missions with Oceanographic Development Squadron Eight (VXN-8). She flew as Oceanographic Project Coordinator, Mission Commander and Detachment Officer-in-Charge on board specially configured RP-3A and RP-3D Orion aircraft. Following the repeal of the Title 10 U.S.C. combat aircraft restriction for female military aviators in 1993, Hire was the first female in the U.S. military assigned to a combat aircrew. Hire later served with USS Kitty Hawk Detachment 0482, Tactical Support Center 0682, U.S. Seventh Fleet Detachment III, and U.S. Naval Forces Central Command Detachment 108. Recalled to full-time active military duty from 2001 to 2003, Hire supported Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom as a member of the Headquarters, U.S. Central Command Current Operations and Joint Operations Center (JOC) staffs at MacDill AFB, Florida during Operation Enduring Freedom, followed by reassignment to the U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/U.S. Fifth Fleet staff for Operation Iraqi Freedom. Hire began work at the Kennedy Space Center in May 1989, first as an Orbiter Processing Facility 3 Activation Engineer and later as a Space Shuttle Orbiter Mechanical Systems Engineer for Lockheed Space Operations Company. In 1991 she was certified as a Space Shuttle Test Project Engineer (TPE) and headed the checkout of the Extravehicular Mobility Units (spacesuits) and Russian Orbiter Docking System. She was assigned as Supervisor of Space Shuttle Orbiter Mechanisms and Launch Pad Swing Arms in 1994. Selected by NASA in December 1994, Hire reported to the Johnson Space Center in March 1995. After a year of training, she worked in mission control as a spacecraft communicator (CAPCOM). Hire flew as Mission Specialist-2 on STS-90 Neurolab (1998) and logged over 381 hours in space. She served as the Astronaut Office Lead for Shuttle Avionics Integration Laboratory (SAIL), Shuttle Payloads, and Flight Crew Equipment. Hire was assigned to the Astronaut Support Personnel (ASP) team for Kennedy Space Center Operations. She then journeyed to the International Space Station as a Mission Specialist for Space Shuttle mission STS-130.
Congressman Mike Gallagher

Keynote Address

Congressman Mike Gallagher (R-WI) was first elected in 2016 in Wisconsin’s 8th District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Born and raised in Green Bay, he joined the United States Marine Corps the day he graduated from college and served for seven years on active duty as a Counterintelligence/Human Intelligence Officer and Regional Affairs Officer for the Middle East/North Africa, eventually earning the rank of Captain. He deployed twice to Al Anbar Province, Iraq as a commander of intelligence teams, served on General Petraeus’s Central Command Assessment Team in the Middle East, and worked for three years in the intelligence community, including tours at the National Counterterrorism Center and the Drug Enforcement Agency. He also served as the lead Republican staffer for Middle East, North Africa and Counterterrorism on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Prior to taking office, he worked in the private sector at a global energy and supply chain management company in Green Bay. After earning his bachelor’s degree from Princeton University, Mike went on to earn a master’s degree in Security Studies from Georgetown University, a second in Strategic Intelligence from National Intelligence University, and his PhD in International Relations from Georgetown.

Congressman Gallagher currently serves on the House Armed Services Committee, where he is a member of the Seapower and Projection Forces, as well as the Readiness Subcommittees. He also serves on the Homeland Security Committee, where he is a member of the Counterterrorism and Intelligence (CTI) and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Subcommittees.

David Weber

Concluding Address

David Weber is an American science fiction and fantasy author. He has written several science-fiction and fantasy books series, the best known of which is the Honor Harrington science-fiction series. His first novel, which he worked on with Steve White, sold in 1989 to Baen books. Baen remains Weber’s major publisher. He earned an undergraduate degree and graduate work at Appalachian State. Weber’s first published novels grew out of his work as a wargame designer for the Task Force game Starfire.
Presenters

Commander BJ Armstrong, USN
an active duty U.S. Navy officer and teaches in the History Department at the U.S. Naval Academy. He received his PhD in War Studies with King’s College, London. He has served as a search and rescue and naval special warfare helicopter pilot, the Officer-in-Charge of an amphibious helicopter gunship detachment, and in the Pentagon as a strategic analyst and staff officer. He is an award winning historian, member of the Naval Institute Editorial Board, and the editor of the 21st Century Foundations series from the Naval Institute Press, which includes his books 21st Century Sims: Innovation, Education, and Leadership for the Modern Era and 21st Century Mahan: Sound Military Conclusions for the Modern Era.

Claude Berube
is the Director of the Naval Academy Museum and has taught for twelve years in the Political Science and History Departments. An intelligence officer in the Navy Reserve, he deployed with Expeditionary Strike Group Five to the Persian Gulf (2004-05) and served in the European Command. He has worked in the U.S. Senate, as the head of a terrorism analysis team for the Office of Naval Intelligence, and as a defense contractor supporting the Office of Naval Research. He was a 2004 LEGIS Fellow with the Brookings Institute and a 2010 Maritime Security Fellow with The Heritage Foundation. His articles have appeared in Naval History, Vietnam, Orbis, Forbes.com, the Christian Science Monitor, Washington Times, USA Today, and Naval Institute Proceedings. He has co-authored three books, “A Call to the Sea: Captain Charles Stewart,” “Congress: Games & Strategies,” and “Maritime Private Security.” He also writes the Connor Stark novels for Naval Institute Press, “The Aden Effect” (2012) and “Syren’s Song” (2013.) He recently submitted his doctoral dissertation on the Navy of the 1830s and will defend it in the spring.

Captain Jonathan Bratten, USA
is an officer in the Army National Guard with an interest in the future of warfare across components. He has written for the Army Press and the Strategy Bridge. When he is not analyzing fiction for real-life lessons learned, he works full-time as an Army historian and lives in Portland, Maine.

Timothy Choi
is the 2017-2018 Smith Richardson Predoctoral Fellow in maritime, naval, and strategic studies at Yale University’s International Security Studies unit. He is a doctoral candidate at the University of Calgary’s Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies, as well as a research fellow with the Centre for the Study of Security and Development at Dalhousie University. He is interested in a wide range of maritime and naval issues, both historical and contemporary, with writings appearing in the Canadian Naval Review, the Journal for Military and Strategic Studies, and the Centre for International Maritime Security (CIMSEC). His Master’s thesis looked at the challenges facing the United States Navy in the realm
of mine warfare and the strategic consequences of this capability gap, using the Ottoman Empire’s defence of the Dardanelles in the First World War as a comparative example. For his doctoral dissertation, he is examining the nature and character of seapower as part of the modern maritime strategies of countries with small navies during peacetime; his case studies involve the maritime services of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden.

Dr. Henry “Jerry” Hendrix, Captain USN (Ret), is a Senior Fellow and the Director of the Defense Strategy and Forces Program at the Center for a New American Security. A retired Captain in the United States Navy and P-3 pilot, he served on the Chief of Naval Operation’s Executive Panel, Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy the OSD Office of Net Assessment and was a Navy Fellow to the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University. His last active duty assignment was Director, Naval History and Heritage Command. He has been awarded a Bachelor Degree in Political Science from Purdue University, Masters Degrees from the Naval Postgraduate School (National Security Affairs) and Harvard University (History) and received his doctorate from King’s College, London (War Studies). His awards include two Legion of Merit awards, and the Defense Superior Service Medal. He has twice been named the Samuel Eliot Morison Scholar by the Navy Historical Center in Washington, DC, and was also the Center’s 2005 Rear Admiral John D. Hays Fellow. He also held the Marine Corps’ General Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr. Fellowship. He authored the book Theodore Roosevelt’s Naval Diplomacy and received a number of awards, including the United States Naval Institute’s Author of the Year and the Navy League’s Alfred T. Mahan Award for Literary Achievement.

Lieutenant Matthew Hipple, USN, is an active duty surface warfare officer and graduate of the Georgetown’s School of Foreign Service. A co-founder and former President of the Center for International Maritime Security, he has written and podcasted prolifically on military issues, from technology and tactics to foreign policy. Now responsible for a tiny human, much of his time is currently spent watching cartoons and fighting his toddler’s uncanny attraction towards things that could kill him. He believes space, and the future, belong to the Navy.

David Larter is the Naval Warfare reporter for Defense News and a Navy veteran. He holds a BA in English Literature from University of Richmond and has spent the last eight years covering the military from Washington and business in Richmond, Virginia. He can be reached by email at dlarter@navytimes.com

Jennifer Marland is a graduate of Mary Baldwin College with dual majors in History and Art History with a minor in Historic Preservation, member of Phi Beta Kappa, and recipient of the Ulysse Deportes Award for excellence in Art History. Since 2000, she has been a curator at the National Museum of the United States
Navy, in Washington, D.C. where she has curated over 24 museum exhibits including “Far From Home, Reflections of World War II,” “Naval Innovation in the Digital Age,” “Remembering: Pentagon 9.11.01,” “Navigating the Dead Sea,” “Sailors in the Sand,” “Bats, Balls, and Anchors Aweigh: The U.S. Navy and Our National Pastime,” “From Fiction to Reality,” and “Defeat to Victory: 1814-1815.” She is the Museum’s expert on Trieste and has been interviewed multiple times about this vessel and its pioneering history. Additionally, Ms. Marland is the Internship Coordinator for the Naval History and Heritage Command’s Internship Program.

Raymond Pritchett is an information systems security professional from upstate New York. His consulting experience includes public sector and private organizations in a variety of industries, with previous clients ranging from Government to retail to health care to massive multi-player online gaming. Specializing in Identity and Access Management, Information Security, and Directory Services; his current responsibility is Operations Manager for Identity and Access Management Services for New York State. Pritchett has no military experience, is self-educated, and is the owner of the maritime strategy discussion forum Information Dissemination.

Captain Mark Vandroff, USN, graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1989 with a B.S. in Physics. In December of 1989, he graduated from The Johns Hopkins University with a Master’s of Science in Applied Physics. He has served 10 years as a Surface Warfare Officer and 18 years as an Engineering Duty Officer with a focus of ship acquisition. From May 2011 to August 2016 he served as Major Program Manager for the DDG 51 Shipbuilding Program (PMS 400D). In September 2016 he became the 37th Commanding Officer of the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division. The programs he has led have been the recipient of DoD’s highest awards for acquisition excellence, including the 2011 Secretary of the Navy’s Competition Excellence Award and the 2012 David Packard Award.
Above, a model of HMS Victory as built by Chief Engineer Geordi Laforge in Star Trek: Next Generation. Below, a bone model of the same ship built by a French POW, which now resides in the U.S. Naval Academy Museum.
www.usna.edu/Museum

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